

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HELSIN 02230 011522Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 074697

O R 011425Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8027

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2230

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: FINNISH ORDERS FOR US CORN

REF: (A) STATE 233041

(B) FAS STOCKHOLM, CODE 24A-FN4009, SEPT. 30, 1974

STOCKHOLM FOR AGATTACHE

1. SUMMARY. FINLAND'S TOTAL OF OUTSTANDING ORDERS FOR
FEED CORN TOTAL 175,000 TONS, ALL OF US ORIGIN. NEED
TO PURCHASE FEED GRAIN FROM ABROAD CAUSED BY LATE
SEASON BAD WEATHER WHICH INTERFERED WITH HARVESTING.
END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
175,000 TON ORDER REFTEL IS ONLY FINNISH ORDER FOR
FEED GRAINS CURRENTLY PLACED ANYWHERE. ORDER WAS
PLACED BY STATE GRANARY WITH EUROPEAN AGENTS AS IS
USUAL PRACTICE.

3. GOF HAS AUTHORIZED STATE GRANARY TO PURCHASE TOTAL OF
200,000 TONS FEED GRAINS. IN ADDITION TO 175,000 TONS
CORN ORDERED FROM US VIA EUROPEAN AGENTS, STATE GRANARY
IS CURRENTLY SEEKING TO PURCHASE TOTAL OF 25,000 TONS
OATS AND/OR BARLEY FROM NON-US SOURCES, CHIEFLY SWEDEN.
SHOULD THIS EFFORT FAIL, STATE GRANARY WILL PROBABLY LATER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HELSIN 02230 011522Z

WISH TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL 25,000 TONS OF FEED GRAINS

FROM US. GOF ASSERTS THAT 200,000 TONS OF IMPORTED GRAIN WILL BE ADEQUATE TO MEET ANIMAL FEED NEEDS. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE STATED SO PUBLICLY ON OCTOBER 30 IN ANSWER TO CRITICISM FROM FARMER'S GROUPS THAT PLANNED FEED GRAIN IMPORTS WERE INADEQUATE.

4. FINLAND ALSO PLANS TO IMPORT SOON FROM 6 TO 10,000 TONS OF CORN FOR MALTING PURPOSES. FINLAND HAS ALREADY IMPORTED 7,000 TONS OF SOFT WHITE US ORIGIN WHEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION BUT HAS NO PLANS TO IMPORT MORE DURING CURRENT CROP YEAR.

5. SINCE STATE GRANARY HANDLES ALL GRAIN IMPORTS, ABOVE FIGURES CAN BE CONSIDERED ACCURATE AND OFFICIAL.

6. ON SOYBEANS, FOREIGN MINISTRY STATED THAT AS "TRADITIONAL BUYER OF US SOYBEANS" VIA EUROPEAN MARKETS, PRIVATE FINNISH IMPORTING FIRMS WOULD "WISH TO RETAIN POSSIBILITY OF IMPORTING US SOYBEANS". MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS AUTHORIZED THE IMPORT OF 93,000 TONS OF SOYBEANS AND 50,000 TONS OF SOYBEAN MEAL IN CALENDAR 1975. BECAUSE OF THE SHORTFALL IN THE FINNISH FEED GRAINS CROP, SOME ADDITIONAL IMPORTS IN 1974 MAY ALSO BE AUTHORIZED.

7. EMBASSY COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION; AS REPORTED IN REF B, GRAIN CROPS THIS YEAR WERE DELAYED IN MATURITY BY TWO TO THREE WEEKS. ALTHOUGH CROP VOLUME PROSPECTS IN AUGUST-SEPT. LOOKED RELATIVELY FAVORABLE, AVERAGE QUALITY WAS LOW AND AT THE END OF SEPT. A MAJOR PORTION OF THE OAT CROP AND SOME OF THE BARLEY CROP REMAINED UNHARVESTED. ALTHOUGH FINAL CROP ESTIMATES FOR 1974 ARE NOT TO BE ISSUED UNTIL NEXT WEEK, IT IS ALREADY CLEAR THAT SOME 100,000 TONS OF BARLEY AND OVER 200,000 TONS OF OATS WILL HAVE TO BE LEFT IN THE FIELDS, BECAUSE HEAVY AND PERSISTANT RAINFALL HAS PREVENTED HARVESTING. ALTHOUGH A SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITY OF WHEAT AND RYE OF LOW QUALITY WILL BE USED AS ANIMAL FEED, THERE WILL BE A SHORTFALL OF ABOUT 200,000 TONS OF FEED GRAINS. FINLAND NORMALLY IS SELF-SUFFICIENT IN FEED GRAINS, WHICH IS WHY IT HAS NO HISTORY OF RECENT IMPORTS OF CORN FROM THE U.S. WE WILL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 HELSIN 02230 011522Z

FORWARD FINAL 1974 GRAIN CROP ESTIMATES AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE BUT DO NOT EXPECT THAT THEY WILL CHANGE FOR BETTER THE SULLY PICTURE PAINTED ABOVE. BECAUSE OF FEED SHORTAGE AND HIGH FEED PRICES, FARMERS ARE ALREADY REDUCING CATTLE POPULATION, WITH CONSEQUENT SHORTAGE OF MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS PREDICTED NEXT YEAR. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS PROMPT APPROVAL OF PENDING FINNISH ORDERS FOR US CORN.

KREHBIEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPORTS, GRAINS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HELSIN02230
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740313-0252
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741180/aaaacpty.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: (A) STATE 233041
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <25-Sep-2002 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FINNISH ORDERS FOR US CORN
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, FI, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005